

NEW SOUTH WALES.

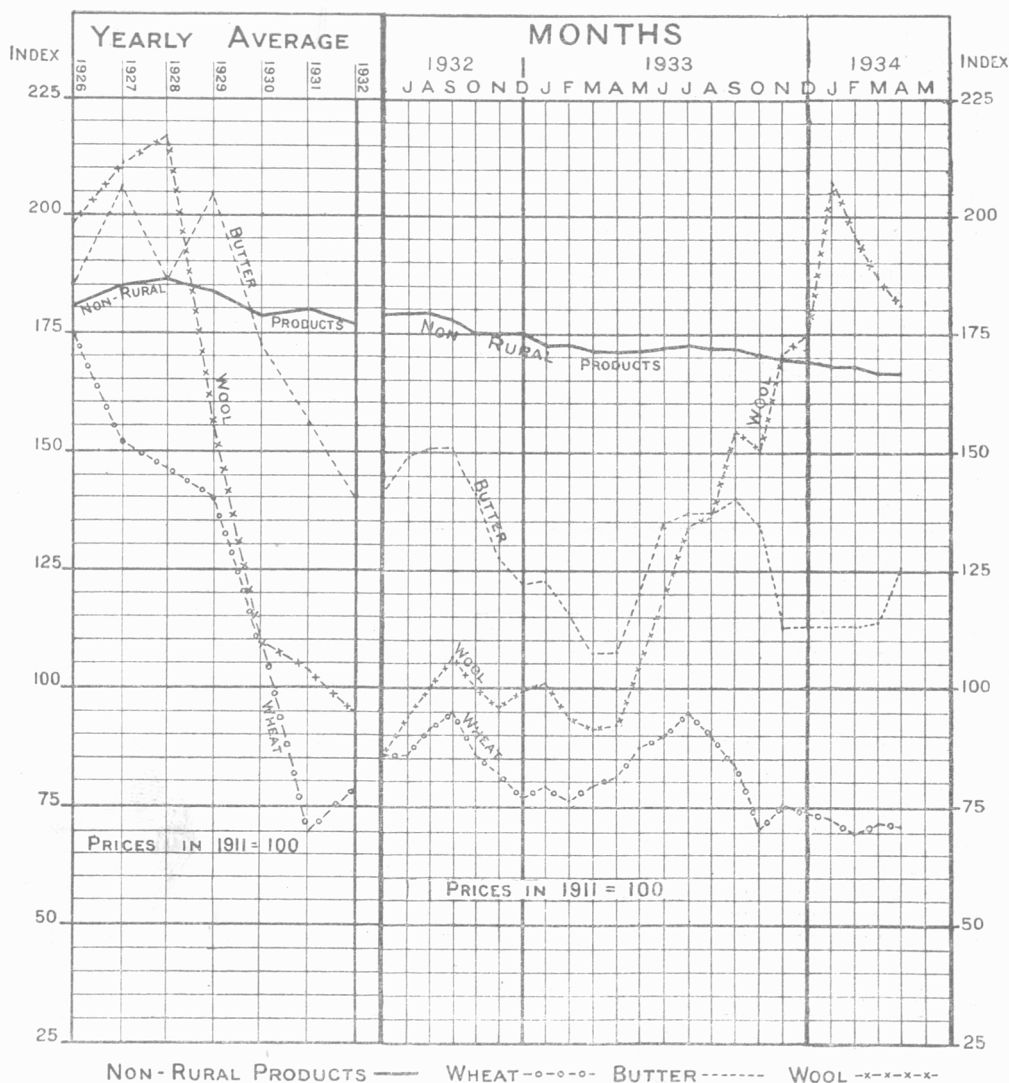
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 37. MAY 24, 1934.

Issued by T. Waites, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 25 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

*33467—A

[Price, 3d.]

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.
(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1933.													
April ...	69	123	79	58	86	50	130	75	86	187	151	77	164
May ...	112	78	76	73	86	91	73	71	74	58	40	83	56
June ...	103	56	65	32	69	105	55	62	65	210	154	74	178
July ...	227	129	114	113	150	228	122	108	127	216	200	100	197
August ...	60	30	53	75	51	50	36	57	50	16	12	54	20
September ...	160	187	142	150	161	147	170	146	152	184	216	89	180
October ...	213	136	68	91	131	232	124	67	102	161	228	96	170
November ...	184	194	182	382	208	183	187	193	190	172	125	177	161
December ...	88	95	213	196	142	91	107	223	176	160	166	147	160
1934.													
January ...	108	102	217	57	136	114	123	199	169	69	51	322	97
February ...	241	344	284	146	274	255	346	306	310	167	210	319	198
March ...	8	11	46	16	22	2	10	52	35	53	44	54	51
April	85	84	134	84	106	70	101	133	117	179	177	338	198

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

The favourable seasonal conditions continue. Falls in the first half of May were confined mainly to coastal districts.

2. WOOL.

It is anticipated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1933-34 will be approximately 470,000,000 lb., as compared with a record total of 532,080,000 lb. in 1932-33.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	Number of bales sold.			Amount realised for wool sold.		
	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Ten months ended 30th						
April* ...	1,067,298	1,176,379	1,044,073	£1,822,245	£13,204,084	£21,471,476

Number of Bales Received into Store.

	During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.		
July ...	31,672	52,218	47,476	31,672	52,218	47,476
August ...	203,140	240,365	192,746	234,812	292,583	240,222
September ...	332,320	283,411	268,143	567,132	575,994	508,365
October ...	291,250	286,955	236,951	858,382	862,949	745,316
November ...	180,321	177,429	165,939	1,038,703	1,040,378	911,255
December ...	64,342	52,967	58,887	1,103,045	1,093,345	970,142
January ...	21,140	22,419	31,874	1,124,185	1,115,764	1,002,016
February ...	19,479	18,180	29,853	1,143,664	1,133,944	1,031,869
March ...	22,625	24,842	25,181	1,166,289	1,158,786	1,057,050
April ...	23,803	24,739	29,629	1,190,092	1,183,525	1,086,679

Number of Bales in Store Unsold.

30th April...	136,004	55,547	52,940
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* Including carry over from previous season.

The course of wool prices is shown in Table 25. The average price realised for greasy wool sold at Sydney auctions in the ten months ended April, 1934, was 16·1d. per lb., as compared with 8·5d. per lb. in the corresponding period of 1932-33. Prices have receded steeply from the peak reached in January, 1934.

3. WHEAT.

Final returns of the crop harvested in the State in 1932-33 show a production of 78,870,000 bushels. The estimated area sown with wheat for grain and hay in New South Wales in the season 1933-34 was 4,838,000 acres. On 12th May, 1934, the quantity of wheat grain stored in silos and on railway premises was 29,416,000 bushels. Of this quantity 9,063,000 bushels were on sites in the Metropolitan Area.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT)

Month.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.			
December ...	3,470,737	5,895,225	925,068	22,404	25,331	21,632
January ...	5,344,553	6,033,908	560,222	10,212	15,049	20,674
February ...	5,307,083	7,525,590	1,912	20,291	31,373	18,258
March ...	3,521,337	4,166,015	480,095	24,223	30,190	16,889
April ...	1,853,165	1,184,170	3,518	17,046	16,499	14,392

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.				
December ...	4,537,605	7,101,449	1,955,154	737,355	1,039,656	258,707	
January ...	5,830,820	6,750,537	1,544,700	986,683	981,122	196,893	
February ...	6,273,300	9,019,564	871,359	1,013,169	1,258,224	103,923	
March ...	4,674,823	5,603,643	1,284,340	735,213	806,092	150,247	
April ...	2,664,881	1,969,815	685,321	433,343	277,630	80,143	
Total (five months)	23,981,429	30,445,008	6,340,874	3,905,763	4,362,724	789,913	

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 25. Comparatively small sales have been effected to date on account of the low prices offering. Continued lag in exports is anticipated in the immediate future.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in 1932-33 was a record, which appears certain to be exceeded in the current season. Production in the nine months ended March, 1934, was 17 per cent. greater than in the corresponding period of 1932-33.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1932.	1933.	Quantity.		Value.	
			1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
July ...	6,013	5,929	786	604	39,248	26,035
August ...	6,494	6,306	1,037	1,155	53,246	45,465
September ...	7,737	8,102	1,463	1,356	75,544	69,268
October ...	12,394	13,046	3,700	3,610	195,195	177,338
November ...	13,707	15,607	6,804	8,186	308,524	322,754
December ...	14,301	17,606	6,669	8,139	272,102	312,415
Total, July-December..	60,646	66,596	20,459	23,050	943,859	953,275
	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
January ...	12,271	18,293	5,343	9,471	228,155	362,983
February ...	13,403	14,950	6,192	8,329	249,443	317,640
March ...	12,357	15,479	7,126	5,552	267,097	215,325
April ...	9,869	.....	2,284	5,366	82,190	231,393

The course of butter prices is shown in Table 25. After a collapse extending from September, 1932, to April, 1933, the London butter market revived temporarily, but collapsed again in October, and weakened until December, 1933. Prices rose slightly during the first half of May. Export sales parity (Sydney) on 17th May, 1934, was 80s. per cwt. compared with 84s. per cwt. a year previously.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1933 was 7,118,000 tons compared with 6,784,000 tons in 1932 and 6,432,000 tons in 1931.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales.†	
	1928.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
Year ended 31st December ...	tons, 6,198,971	tons, 4,902,779	tons,	tons, 2,599,950	tons,
January	546,533	360,500	452,715	204,914	215,672
February	502,801	387,499	425,812	217,050	224,032
March	522,006	430,810	427,395	235,651	205,322
April	427,279	336,798	440,000*	200,664	210,000*

* Approximate.

† Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate.

‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January	1,982	1,822	1,996	2,199	135	137	152	163*	542	497	545	562*
February	1,993	2,108	2,098	2,326	140	141	156	173	535	519	559	598
March	1,977	2,273	2,297	2,434	142	144	155	175	539	535	549	612
April	1,867	2,019	1,862	...	140	144	156	...	531	529	529	...
May	1,929	1,989	2,153	...	137	142	157	...	526	523	539	...
June	1,879	1,823	1,964	...	137	139	155	...	506	501	536	...
July	1,986	1,887	1,986	...	135	142	160	...	516	520	531	...
August	1,845	2,058	2,176	...	136	150	162	...	514	554	563	...
September	1,889	2,116	2,143	...	140	155	167	...	519	559	593	...
October	1,914	2,042	2,198	...	142	156	171	...	539	556	605	...
November	2,050	2,326	2,470	...	142	156	174	...	528	560	606	...
December	2,265	2,375	2,414	...	142	155	173	...	527	587	621	...
Average (January -December) ...	1,965	2,070	2,146	...	139	147	162	...	527	537	565	...

See also Table 22.

* Decrease due to a dispute in the Textile Industry.

NOTE—Particulars for 1930 were shown in previous issues. The monthly averages for the year were :—Sales, £2,317,000; Employees, 16,000; and Remuneration, £64,700.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of Permits to Erect New Buildings and Additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded :—

Year.	Month of April.				March Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Country Municipalities.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.
			No.	Value.	No.	Value.	
1932... ..	£ 98,249	£ 22,478	40	£ 44,525	215	£ 95,222	£ 485,194
1933... ..	257,280	144,304	87	77,254	297	151,802	778,283
1934... ..	344,721	22,701	262	252,534	594	334,961	1,678,238

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. All other Shires are excluded, as returns are not supplied.

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings or additions show in advance the trend in the building industry. More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 22 to 25 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for March Quarter, 1934.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

Year.	Australian Currency Values.				British Currency Values.			
	Month of April.		Ten Months ended 30th April.		Month of April.		Ten Months ended 30th April.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Thousand £ Australian.				Thousand £ Sterling.			
1932	1,988	2,248	18,974	27,681	1,590	1,791	14,825	21,677
1933	2,147	2,056	24,135	29,260	1,714	1,642	19,269	23,361
1934	2,555	1,631	25,242	36,858	2,040	1,302	20,152	29,428

* Excluding bullion and specie.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in English currency. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, less bonuses on butter, &c., and are recorded in Australian currency. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are estimated.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Recorded Sales (New South Wales) under Sales Tax Act.

Month.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.
	Million £.		Million £.		Million £.		Million £.	
January	4·20	9·33	4·53	9·89	4·05	9·52	4·26	9·87
February	4·56	9·71	4·76	9·52	4·49	9·98	4·64	10·37
March	4·82	9·64	5·05	9·55	4·97	10·92	5·30	10·92
April	5·27	11·37	5·39	10·17	5·00	10·67		
May	5·16	9·81	5·03	10·17	5·35	11·37		
June	5·64	10·71	4·67	9·61	4·76	10·63		
July	4·63	9·65	4·66	10·09	4·55	10·33		
August	4·68	9·10	5·01	10·22	5·08	11·23		
September	4·81	10·45	5·42	11·10	5·79	11·51		
October	4·84	10·47	5·17	11·13	5·53	11·30		
November	4·80	10·51	5·25	11·05	5·16	11·42		
December	4·91	11·47	5·36	11·76	5·70	11·81		

A considerable number of commodities was exempt from tax as from 1st September, 1932, with further exemptions as from 26th October, 1933. The number of wholesalers dealing only in exempt goods and not required to supply returns, therefore tends to increase.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from 23 city stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for months shown below compared with corresponding months of previous year:—

Month.	Number of Business Days in Month.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
1933.			Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—).					
August ...	27	27	(+) 1'6	(—) 1'1	(—) 7'7	(+) 2'3	(—) 3'1	(—) 5'1
September ...	26	26	(+) 0'9	(—) 4'0	(—) 3'6	(+) 3'0	(—) 1'8	(—) 5'4
October ...	25	25	(+) 6'4	(—) 4'9	(+) 3'7	(+) 2'5	(+) 2'9	(—) 2'8
November ...	26	26	(+) 2'5	(—) 4'5	(+) 3'4	(+) 1'9	(+) 3'2	(+) 1'1
December ...	25	24	(+) 1'8	(—) 6'1	(—) 2'1	(+) 2'5	(+) 3'3	(+) 1'4
*Year 1933	303	303	(—) 0'1	(—) 2'3	(—) 2'8	(+) 4'4	...	...
1934.								
January ...	24	25	(+) 5'6	(—) 5'8	(+) 6'4	(+) 2'9	(+) 3'0	(+) 2'3
February ...	24	24	(+) 1'7	(—) 6'3	(+) 2'3	(+) 2'9	(+) 2'8	(+) 1'9
March ...	27	26	(+) 2'9	(—) 5'3	(+) 1'3	(+) 3'8	(+) 3'3	(+) 3'3

* Comparison with the calendar year 1932.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were :—

Month of March.				Nine Months ended 31st March.			
		Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.			Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
		£	£	£			£
1932	...	1,303,291	1,026,806	276,485	11,508,786	9,211,314	2,297,472
1933	...	1,262,728	961,652	301,076	11,899,736	8,681,736	3,218,000
1934	...	1,245,353	854,179	391,174	11,347,657	7,897,848	3,449,809

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1932-33 was £6,352,581, exclusive of £1,191,937 exchange.

				Month of March.		Nine Months ended 31st March.	
				Net Goods Ton-milage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-milage.*	Passenger Journeys.
				thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1932	...	...	...	129,633	11,911	1,148,628	94,596
1933	...	...	...	154,860	10,806	1,285,143	99,464
1934	...	...	...	122,006	12,551	1,132,976	104,253

* Goods (including wayleave) and live stock. Ton-milage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

During 1932-33 certain rail freights and workmen's weekly fares were reduced and further substantial reductions in all passenger fares and in certain freight rates were made in 1933-34.

12. TRAMWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAMWAYS.

Sydney and Suburbs.				Newcastle and Suburbs.		
Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried. ††		Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried.
Year ended 30th June,	£	£		£	£	
1933	3,058,696	442,543	268,391,755	208,151	43,433	18,994,387
1933.						
March	268,229	55,333	23,677,344	18,212	5,508	1,637,065
April	254,713	49,431	22,633,397	16,495	2,350	1,520,184
May	250,563	35,014	22,226,243	17,519	4,223	1,589,914
June	234,987	32,633	21,155,880	16,444	1,703	1,540,863
July	235,010	33,088	21,070,407	17,138	3,806	1,574,258
August	246,069	49,012	21,086,881	16,362	3,540	1,487,016
September	239,909	44,478	21,163,769	16,765	4,775	1,537,881
October	250,187	53,808	22,474,578	17,519	4,474	1,603,717
November	244,061	47,751	21,824,711	17,583	5,321	1,626,604
December	267,879	70,178	24,060,682	19,426	6,731	1,768,604
1934.						
January	281,805	84,641	23,467,180	19,235	6,190	1,675,091
February	244,067	63,608	21,316,712	17,134	3,949	1,557,171
March...	273,993	72,402	24,236,020	18,196	4,210	1,663,184

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses. The amount of interest chargeable against the tramways in 1932-33 was £383,500, exclusive of £69,000 exchange. †† Excludes passengers carried on Sydney Harbour Bridge Section only.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.), AS AT VARIOUS DATES.†

Class.	30th June—				31st October, 1933.	31st December, 1933.	28th February, 1934.	31st March, 1934.	30th April, 1934.
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.					
Cars	169,495	154,096	143,970	147,647	149,329	152,369	153,357	153,671	154,005
Lorries and Vans	45,309	41,788	38,618	42,335	44,092	45,613	46,155	46,447	46,752
Cycles	29,410	25,453	22,741	22,397	22,192	22,491	22,432	22,445	22,429
Buses	640	676	362	415	436	450	450	456	456
Cabs	1,340	1,078	1,070	1,066	1,050	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,051

† Government vehicles (except omnibuses) are excluded.

Average Weekly Number of New Cars Registered.*

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1930 ...	394	361	285	200	199	196	181	183	135	141	241	132
1931 ...	78	83	69	88	59	55	47	45	45	55	60	53
1932 ...	55	61	63	58	55	53	61	71	67	93	96	106
1933 ...	74	81	89	96	88	94	95	112	132	138	146	198
1934 ...	142	144	130	147								

* Represents average for four weeks ending on first Tuesday in succeeding month until October, 1932; subsequent periods end on first Friday in ensuing month.

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

Date.	Amount of Deposits.	Date.	Amount of Deposits.	
			1933.	1934.
1929—June 30	£ 85,727,514†	January 31	£ 71,262,764*	£ 73,824,490*
1930—March 31	80,723,561	February 28	71,334,540*	74,030,249*
June 30	82,465,430†	March 31	71,253,452	73,958,627*
September 30	78,552,912	April 30	70,990,580*	
December 31	73,406,775	May 31	70,685,762*	
1931—March 31	70,773,167	June 30	72,307,685†	
June 30	69,810,769†	July 31	72,308,525*	
September 30	71,448,529	August 31	72,309,000*	
December 31	72,503,441	September 30	72,357,694	
1932—March 31	70,766,850	October 31	72,453,208*	
June 30	71,647,869†	November 30	72,463,571*	
September 30	70,906,662	December 31	72,503,848	
December 31	70,298,583			

* Approximate.

† Includes accrued interest.

15. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

TOTAL (including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

March Quarter.				Deposits.	Advances, &c., and Government Securities.	Excess of Advances over Deposits, &c.
				thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1932	...	...	...	116,211	141,516	25,305
1933	...	...	...	114,246	133,531	19,285
1934	...	...	...	120,580	142,019	21,439

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government Deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

March Quarter.		Deposits.			Advances, &c.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.	Ratio of Advances to Deposits
		Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.			
		thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	per cent.
1932	...	59,160	37,396	96,556	91,667	(—) 4,889	94.9
1933	...	58,672	36,317	94,989	91,972	(—) 3,017	96.8
1934	...	60,515	42,373	102,888	91,625	(—) 11,263	89.0

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
Amount—Million £							Index Numbers					
January ...	86.2	78.2	67.4	46.7	49.2	59.5	107	102	82	63	68	78
February ...	88.1	75.5	63.8	47.3	47.7	59.3	107	98	82	62	66	77
March ...	89.8	83.7	69.9	42.7	53.3	58.8	106	95	81	*	63	75
April ...	89.7	68.6	62.4	43.5	44.4	52.8	104	94	82	*	63	74
May ...	89.7	76.7	54.0	46.1	58.9	...	104	93	77	*	67	...
June ...	84.8	71.7	57.1	51.8	52.4	...	104	90	75	66	68	...
July ...	88.8	73.7	48.9	46.8	49.7	...	106	89	66	62	68	...
August ...	84.1	58.4	45.5	46.0	48.5	...	108	85	65	64	66	...
September ...	78.7	61.7	†54.6	51.3	55.6	...	107	82	64	65	69	...
October ...	89.1	71.5	56.0	53.5	55.4	...	106	80	65	66	70	...
November ...	85.5	65.8	50.6	55.3	63.9	...	103	81	66	68	74	...
December ...	88.8	86.9	52.9	57.7	62.4	...	104	82	64	69	74	...
Year ...	1,043.3	872.4	†683.1	588.7	641.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* State Government banking transactions suspended. Index not ascertainable. † Exclusive of certain abnormal Government transactions.

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926–1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

			Month of April.		Four months ended 30th April.	
			Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.*	Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.*
			£	£	£	£
1932	...	...	866,073	712,292	3,179,409	2,631,075
1933	...	...	946,729	656,882	4,452,054	2,848,769
1934	...	...	1,468,615	981,036	6,389,158	5,064,699

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

The above comparison is affected by a decline in property values. Figures for individual months are shown in Table 50 of the Statistical Bulletin of New South Wales for March Quarter, 1934.

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

			Month of April.			Four months ended 30th April.		
			Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
1932	...	...	679,260	229,759	218,617	2,723,752	888,822	684,448
1933	...	...	428,447	326,829	94,491	2,718,835	1,226,549	407,791
1934	...	...	222,509	291,308	143,996	1,473,251	1,214,946	596,709

See note under Table 18.

The numbers involved in liens and mortgages were as follow :—

Four months ended 30th April.			Number of Crop Liens.	Number of Sheep subject to Liens on Wool.*	Number of Livestock under Mortgage.		
					Sheep.*	Cattle.	Horses.
1932	...	...	5,342	3,841,258	3,848,278	42,587	6,283
1933	...	...	5,130	4,228,258	2,549,016	49,804	5,232
1934	...	...	3,386	3,720,112	3,309,760	51,952	5,826

* In many cases sheep are included under both headings.

20. BANKRUPTCIES.

Sequestrations and Deeds of Arrangement, New South Wales.

Year.			Month of April.		Four months ended 30th April.	
			Number.	Liabilities.*	Number.	Liabilities.*
1932	...	...	65	£ 85,585	245	£ 789,392
1933	...	...	59	70,598	213	305,241
1934	...	...	54	62,448	182	243,615

* Gross liabilities before deducting assets.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21. UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Month.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
February	9'7	16'3	29'2	31'8	30'2	25'8
May	10'0	21'0	30'7	33'2	29'6	
August	12'4	23'3	31'6	33'0	28'8	
November.....	13'8	26'3	31'5	31'9	27'0	

The above figures are compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician from returns supplied by Trade Unions, and represent the proportion of unemployed members to total membership in unions reporting.

22. INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT.

Data under this heading are not yet available. The numbers of employees in 98 of the larger factories of the State were as follow :—

Middle of Month.	1931.	1932.	1933.	Middle of Month.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
July	32,399	36,114	39,189	January	34,440	38,166	41,318*
August	32,065	37,418	39,902	February	34,903	39,776	42,499
September	32,468	38,381	40,780	March	35,435	40,136	44,019
October	33,392	38,415	42,136	April	36,040	39,911	
November	34,521	39,302	42,843	May	35,535	39,900	
December	34,399	38,923	41,614	June	35,794	39,344	

* Reduction due to a dispute in the textile industry.

Changes in the volume of employment in retail trades are indicated in Table 10.

23. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and the group averages are the means of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. It represents the ratio of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values.

Par Value of Shares = 100.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total * Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
July, 1929...	178.8	172.9	129.9	158.8	231.6	169.4	168.8
July, 1930...	112.5	102.8	109.6	87.9	172.6	112.6	111.2
July, 1931...	77.3	65.9	90.8	79.3	119.0	79.5	83.5
Sept., 1931 §	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
July, 1932...	100.0	78.0	112.1	94.9	152.0	95.3	102.1
1933.							
January ...	114.4	90.2	131.9	106.2	163.3	107.0	115.4
March ...	115.2	91.6	132.8	100.4	164.9	108.3	116.3
June ...	129.1	99.3	138.3	119.6	176.6	119.3	127.2
September...	135.6	108.8	139.6	135.6	186.0	126.0	134.1
October ...	141.9	116.5	143.6	134.2	196.3	131.6	139.9
November...	139.8	117.0	140.6	138.4	196.6	130.9	138.5
December ...	139.3	120.3	143.3	145.6	199.3	132.4	139.5
1934.							
January ...	147.2	129.7	151.5	159.6	209.2	140.0	147.8
February ...	149.7	130.0	153.4	151.9	214.7	141.4	147.4
March ...	148.0	131.8	153.2	152.2	217.1	141.4	147.8
April ...	148.8	134.7	158.8	154.7	223.3	143.8	150.5

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies.

§ The lowest point of the index was reached in September, 1931.

24. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
January	1,000	1,031	1,013	956	929	979	996
February	1,000	1,044	981	974	949	972	999
March	1,000	1,018	1,011	971	952	976	990
April	1,000	1,036	1,004	960	956	961	1,008
May	1,000	1,055	1,000	944	951	969	
June	1,000	1,035	999	966	987	967	
July	1,000	1,052	987	960	967	961	
August	1,000	1,061	998	940	973	1,007	
September	1,000	1,085	979	936	969	986	
October	1,000	1,093	972	934	965	958	
November	1,000	1,093	961	946	972	1,030	
December	1,000	1,043	983	973	990	1,008	
Average (12 months)	1,000	1,054	991	955	963	984	

25. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year. 1911 = 100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural. §	100 Com- modities Average.
1911*	100	100	100	100	100
1929*	162	140	204	184	186
1930*	109	110	172	178	170
1931*	105	70	154	180	155
1932*	96	88	140	177	152
1933*	127	82	124	172	151
1932—June	86	86	141	178	152
September	107	95	151	177	153
December	99	77	123	175	149
1933—January	101	79	123	173	148
February	94	77	116	173	146
March	92	79	108	172	144
April	93	81	108	172	146
May	104	88	120	172	148
June	118	90	134	173	151
July	134	96	137	173	154
August	136	90	137	172	156
September	154	84	140	172	156
October	151	71	134	171	152
November	171	76	114	169	152
December	175	74	113	169	154
1934—January	208	73	113	168	154
February	196	70	113	168	155
March	187	72	114	167	152
April	181	72	126	167	152
At 16th May	155	74	142	...	...

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Par = 100.

Average Rates of Exchange. †				
Australia on London.	London on New York.	London on Paris.	Australia on New York.	Australia on Paris.
100	...	...	...	...
102	100	100	102	100
100	100	100	106	105
128	107	107	140	137
125	139	139	174	172
125	115	147	143	181
125	133	134	166	166
125	140	140	175	173
125	149	148	185	183
125	145	144	181	178
125	142	142	177	176
125	142	142	176	172
125	135	142	168	176
125	124	145	152	179
125	117	144	146	178
125	105	146	130	180
125	108	148	134	183
125	104	154	130	191
125	104	155	129	192
125	95	151	118	188
125	95	148	118	185
125	96	152	119	189
125	97	160	120	198
125	96	161	119	200
125	94	160	117	198
125	95	160	118	200

* Average for year.

† Approximate.

§ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

The decrease in prices as between the average for 1929 and April, 1934, was, respectively (per cent. of 1929 average):—Wheat, 49; butter, 38; non-rural, 9; 100 commodities, average, 18. The average price of wool in April, 1934, was 12 per cent. above the average for 1929.

26. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

1931-1934 WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX*															
	1931.	1933.										1934.			
	Sept.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1924 = 100)	59.7	58.5	59.7	61.2	61.5	61.7	62.0	61.8	61.9	61.9	63.0	63.4	62.4	61.9	
United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100)	68.7	57.2	60.3	63.7	69.0	70.5	71.2	71.6	71.7	71.7	72.3	73.7	74.3	73.3*	
Gold standard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931, and by U.S.A. 6th March, 1933.												* Four weeks.			

Gold standard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931, and by U.S.A. 6th March, 1933.

* Four weeks.

27. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, English Currency).

Date.	Gold* (Fine).	Silver (Standard).	Lead.	Spelter.	Tin (Standard).	Copper (Standard).
	per oz.	per oz.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.
Average, 1927-29 ...	£ 4 4 11	s. 2 1 75	£ 22 18 11	£ 26 4 4	£ 240 1 8	£ 64 19 5
September, 1931 ...	4 11 3	1 2 10	11 19 7	11 16 4	117 17 10	31 11 1
1933.						
April ...	6 0 8	1 6 44	10 19 11	15 1 7	158 0 4	29 12 5
July ...	6 4 0	1 6 34	13 10 3	17 15 9	216 15 8	37 19 1
October ...	6 11 7	1 6 22	11 19 1	16 9 1	223 10 8	33 13 11
November ...	6 8 9	1 6 43	11 13 2	15 4 0	226 16 4	30 12 6
December ...	6 6 3	1 6 67	11 10 11	14 18 10	227 14 10	31 7 0
1934.						
January ...	6 10 1	1 7 38	11 8 2	14 16 4	226 14 4	32 12 0
February ...	6 17 0	1 8 07	11 15 6	14 19 8	226 16 2	33 2 1
March ...	6 16 6	1 8 28	11 13 10	14 17 8	233 19 2	32 10 8
April ...	6 15 2	1 7 74	11 12 11	15 1 2	239 6 0	33 0 10
May (1st to 16th) ...	6 16 0	1 7 04	11 2 0	14 14 10	235 6 6	32 15 5

*The par price of gold is £4 4s. 11d. per oz. fine.

28. SUMMARY.

The following Table provides some indication of trends in 1933 and 1934 in respect of the principal activities for which it is possible to indicate general trends by monthly figures:—

Refer to Table No. ...	17	9	6	5	7	11	24	12
Month.	Index of Bank Clearings.	Value of Goods sold at Wholesale.	Value of Goods sold by certain Factories.	Quantity of Coal Hauled by Railways.	Value of City and Suburban Building Permits. (d).	Number of Passenger Journeys on Railways.	Index of Quantity of Gas and Electricity Consumed.	Tramway Revenue.
1933.		£ (b)	£ (b)	tons (a)	£ (a)	(c)		£ (a)
June ...	68	1,063	196	434	367	110	967	251
July ...	68	1,033	199	400	329	112	961	252
August ...	66	1,123	218	440	319	106	1,007	262
September ...	69	1,151	214	381	295	108	986	257
October ...	70	1,130	220	398	223	118	988	268
November ...	74	1,142	247	468	277	113	1,030	262
December ...	74	1,181	241	392	203	124	1,008	287
1934.								
January ...	78	987	220	453	289	126	996	301
February ...	77	1,037	233	426	401	116	999	261
March ...	75	1,092	243	427	424	126	990	292
April ...	74	...	...	440	345	...	1,008	...

(a) Thousands. (b) Ten thousands. (c) Hundred thousands. (d) New buildings and additions as recorded by Municipal Councils.

The general position in regard to primary industries might be gauged by reference to tables 1 to 4, and to the prices shown in the graph on page 1, and in table 25.

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics, 36 Young-street, Sydney.

24th May, 1934.